

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO WARREN C. CHAO

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in tribute to an outstanding American, the late Mr. Warren C. Chao who led a life of service, great accomplishment and ultimate achievement of the American dream.

Mr. Chao was born into meager circumstances during a time of great turmoil in Manchuria, China, on March 16, 1914. Even as a young man, he was deeply committed to receiving an education and left his family to attend school in Beijing at the age of 15. During the Japanese occupation, Mr. Chao was unable to return to his home.

When he was at last able to return, Mr. Chao was distressed to learn that his father had been tortured and arrested by the Japanese army and that his family had been forced to sell their farm to buy his father's freedom, leaving them indigent. Also after returning to his native Manchuria, Mr. Chao completed his undergraduate work in Civil Engineering. For five years after his graduation, Mr. Chao committed himself to public service by building agricultural infrastructure for Chinese farmers. During this time he supervised various flood management projects in China, including the Yellow River project, which is, world renowned as one of the most challenging water projects ever undertaken by man.

Mr. Speaker, in 1948, during the Chinese Civil War, Mr. Chao worked on water conservation projects in Manchuria for the Nationalist government. A staunch anti-communist, he was forced to escape on foot, disguised as a peasant, to rejoin his wife who had previously left Manchuria for the safety of Beijing. Unfortunately, Mr. Chao's parents and extended family were unable to join him. After a brief stay in Beijing, Mr. Chao and his wife traveled to Taiwan, not knowing that they would not see their homeland again for more than 40 years.

Once in Taiwan, Mr. Chao got a job with the Taiwan Sugar Company as a Civil Engineer. During the eleven years he was employed by the Taiwan Sugar Company, he was recognized as a pioneer in developing western Taiwan's coastal agricultural areas. After leaving the Taiwan Sugar Company, Mr. Chao was employed by the National Taiwan Power Company as the Senior Hydraulic Engineer, and was instrumental in building numerous large hydraulic dams and power stations. Due to his technical and supervisory expertise, he was appointed to be the Irrigation Engineer for the Sino-American Joint Commission on Rural Reconstruction, a venture supported by the United States Agency for International Development.

Mr. Speaker, at the age of 55, Mr. Chao immigrated to the United States in pursuit of a better life for his family. He moved to San Francisco on August 8, 1970. His lack of skill

in the English language hindered Mr. Chao professionally, but he persevered, performing hard physical labor to support his family.

Like many Americans, Mr. Chao succeeded despite tremendous odds against him. He worked hard to get ahead and attended graduate school in civil engineering at the University of California at Davis, and environmental engineering at the University of California at San Francisco. He returned to engineering at the Naval Supplies Center in Alameda where he served as a Civil Engineer for 15 years, retiring at the age of 78, after spending his entire professional life using his technical knowledge to benefit others.

Mr. Speaker, sadly Mr. Chao passed away on August 14, 1999. His family described his passing in peace and comfort and recalled these selfless words from his final days: "This road is getting too long and hard and I don't want to make it too hard for you." I will close with the words of Mr. Chao's son Michael, who paid the greatest tribute a child can to a parent by memorializing his father as a man of "accomplishment, sacrifice for his family, service to his country and unyielding spirit and enthusiasm for education."

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Chao for a life well lived, for the legacy of public service, for his commitment his family in America. I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Warren Chao.

COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2001

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, with great reluctance, I will vote against the Community Solutions Act (H.R. 7), an otherwise outstanding piece of legislation. The bill allows additional not-for-profits the same ability to administer federal programs as the Salvation Army, Catholic Charities, and Lutheran Social Services have demonstrated for years; it allows appreciated IRA's to be cashed in and donated to charities without having to declare a gain in income; and much more. There is one very troubling provision, however.

In an effort to encourage businesses and individuals to make facilities available to not-for-profits, including churches, section 104 of the bill creates different legal standards of care owed by the landlord to the tenant. For example, if a shopping center made a community room available, for free or rental, and an attendee fell down the stairs, the charity could have greater liability for injuries than the landlord who has actual control of the stairs. If the church lacked the insurance or other resources, the attendee might be left without a complete remedy, or any remedy at all.

Apart from the merits of these different liability standards for not-for-profits, that whole

issue belongs in the state legislatures, not the United States Congress. Congress has no constitutional authority to determine landlord-tenant liability. This is how good intentions result in bad law, and how federal government power continues to grow.

I raised these important concerns, but they were not heeded. While there is an exemption or "opt-out" for states in section 104(e) of the bill, it is wholly inadequate. It requires states to enact a law claiming exemption from the federal standards, but even then it provides no exemption for federal cases (such as those based on diversity of citizenship) and no exemption for state cases where diversity of citizenship exists. In other words, even if a state enacts a law opting out of the federal liability standards, those federal standards still apply in numerous cases, including (1) all cases brought in federal court and (2) all cases brought in state court where any plaintiff or any defendant is from a different state. Such a diluted exemption does very little to address the important policy and constitutional concerns noted above.

The bill does not need section 104 to carry out the President's worthy goal of expanding charitable choice. I sincerely hope the bill can be changed to reflect these serious concerns, and will work toward that end.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, due to airplane malfunctions I was detained in returning from my district last night and missed three votes. Had I been here I would have made the following votes: rollcall No. 257—"yes", No. 258—"yes" and No. 259—"yes".

HIV/AIDS IN THE CARIBBEAN

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, while we take into account the millions who die each year in Africa from this deadly disease we know as HIV/AIDS, we must also focus our attention on the Caribbean, as the second largest population to become infected with this devastating disease, as reported in the front page of the Washington Post yesterday, for those who may have missed it, I submit it for the record.

Two-thirds of all those diagnosed with the AIDS virus in the Caribbean are dead within two years. What is even more outrageous is that AIDS is the leading cause of death in the Caribbean for those aged 15 to 45 and the numbers are growing.

About one in every 50 people in the Caribbean, or 2% of the population has AIDS or is

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